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ORIGIN AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AMAD-01	CIAE-00	C-01	OASY-00	DOEE-00	EUR-01
	HA-09	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-01	ADS-00
	NSAE-00	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01
	P-01	SNP-00	SP-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00
	PMB-00	/037R					

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AF:GMOOSE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY KAMPALA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

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SECDEF WASHDC 0720

JOINT STAFF WASHDC 8407

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 135179

YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR

TAGS: PREL, MOPS, RW, UN

SUBJECT: UN PLANNING FOR RWANDA OPERATION

REFS: A) 5/19 MOOSE/INDERFURTH TELCON, B) BUJUMBURA 01654

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1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST

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2. WE BELIEVE THAT THE UN NEEDS TO MOVE QUICKLY IN DEVELOPING A CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE EXPANDED UNAMIR MISSION IN RWANDA. WE KNOW THAT THE UN IS CONSULTING RWANDA, INCLUDING BOTH THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT AND THE RPF, AND OTHER AFRICAN COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY BURUNDI. THE MISSION IS URGED TO SHARE WITH THE SECRETARIAT OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION (BELOW) AND URGE THAT ITS CONSULTATIONS WITH AFRICAN COUNTRIES BE EXPEDITED AND THE RESULTS SHARED WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE SO THAT THE COUNCIL CAN ACT. END SUMMARY AND ACTION REQUEST

ASSESSMENT

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3. WE UNDERSTAND THE RPF OBJECTS TO AN INTERPOSITIONAL FORCE AND WOULD ONLY ACCEPT A FORCE THAT IS STRICTLY LIMITED TO A HUMANITARIAN MISSION. IF UNAMIR FORCES ATTEMPT TO INTERVENE IN THE CONVENTIONAL CIVIL WAR, THE RPF HAS SAID THEY WILL TREAT THEM AS COMBATANTS. THE RPF HAS ALSO EXPRESSED A CONCERN OVER CREATION OF LARGE SAFE-HAVENS INTO WHICH MILITIA AND HUTU THUGS AND KILLERS MIGHT FLEE TO AVOID RPF RETRIBUTION. ACCORDING TO ITS MAY 17 PRESS RELEASE, THE RPF OPPOSES MAKING KIGALI AIRPORT A NEUTRAL ZONE UNLESS GOVERNMENT FORCES VACATE BOTH THE AIRPORT AND ADJACENT KANOMBE MILITARY BARRACKS. UNTIL THAT HAPPENS, THE RPF CONSIDERS THE AIRPORT A LEGITIMATE TARGET AND "STRONGLY ADVISES THE UN FORCES NOT TO BASE THEIR CONTINGENCY PLANNING ON THE AVAILABILITY OF KIGALI AIRPORT." INSTEAD, THE RPF URGES TE UN TO "SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE USE OF SAFER ALTERNATIVE ACCESS ROUTES FROM EIGHBORING COUNTRIES AND AIRSTRIPS IN NON-CONTESTED AREAS" IN EITHER RPF OR GOVERNMENT ZONES. THE RPF PRESS RELEASE MAKES CLEAR THAT THE RPF WANTS A RIGHT OF VETO OVER POTENTIAL TROOP CONTRIBUTORS, AND EXPRESSLY STATES THE RPF OBJECTS TO PARTICIPATION BY ANY NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES OR SUPPORTERS OF HABYARIMANA OR THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT.

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4. THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT HAS WELCOMED A LARGE FORCE AND WOULD PROBABLY HAVE PREFERRED AN INTERPOSITIONAL FORCE TO PROTECT IT FROM THE ADVANCING RPF. NONETHELESS, THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT OBJECTED TO A STRAIGHT HUMANITARIAN MISSION. AT THIS TIME, IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT WOULD BE MORE OR LESS LIKELY TO APPROVE A KIGALI-BASED OPERATION OR A CROSS-BORDER DEPLOYMENT.

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THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT'S POSITION ON TROOP CONTRIBUTORS AS NOT BEEN SPELLED OUT EITHER, BUT IT IS SAFE TO ASSUME SOME COUNTRIES (UGANDA, BELGIUM) WOULD NOT BE WELCOME.

5. WE DO NOT YET KNOW THE POSITION OF THE BURUNDI GOVERNMENT, ALTHOUGH REF (B) WOULD SUGGEST THAT AGREEMENT OF THE GRB TO STAGE THE OPERATION FROM BURUNDI MAY BE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN. HOWEVER, ACCORDING TO THE UN SPECIAL REP THERE, THE PRESENCE OF A CEASEFIRE AND THE RPF'S ACCEPTANCE OF THE FORCE COULD FACILITATE APPROVAL, AS WOULD FULL SUPPORT FROM THE UNSC AND THE RESIDENT DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

6. THE U.S. IS WILLING, AND INTENDS, TO CONTRIBUTE ITS

IEWS ON HOW BEST TO STRUCTURE THE OPERATION TO ACHIEVE THE HUMANITARIAN MISSION OUTLINED IN UNSC RESOLUTION 918. THE U.S. LOOKS FORWARD TO THE UN'S SHARING WITH THE SECURITY COUNCIL MEMBERS THE RESULT OF ITS CONSULTATIONS WITH THE KEY AFRICAN AND OTHER PLAYERS IN ORDER TO FACILITATE DEVELOPMENT OF A VIABLE CONCEPT OF OPERATION AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

7. BUJUMBURA - MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. CHRISTOPHER

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